

Public Information Statement  
National Weather Service Albany, NY  
800 AM EDT Wed Mar 16 2021

The National Weather Service (NWS) Albany, NY has declared March 15 through March 19 as Flood Safety Awareness Week. Each day during the awareness week will feature information about a different flood related topic. Follow us on Twitter for safety and preparedness messages throughout the week.

<https://twitter.com/NWSAlbany>

A flood is defined as any high flow, overflow or inundation of water that causes or threatens damage. Flooding can occur with prolonged rainfall over several days, intense rainfall over a short period of time, or when water from an existing source is quickly released, for example rapid snowmelt or a dam or levee breaks.

At any time of year, a storm from over the ocean can bring heavy precipitation to the U.S. coasts. Whether such a storm is tropical or not, prolonged periods of heavy precipitation can cause freshwater flooding in coastal areas, as well as further inland, as the storm moves on shore. In addition to the freshwater flood threat, tropical systems and nor'easters can bring the threat of storm surge related coastal flooding.

Flooding due to snowmelt most often occurs in the spring when warming temperatures quickly melt the snow. The water runs off frozen or already saturated ground into nearby streams and rivers, causing them to rise rapidly.

More information about these and other flood hazards in your state can be found on the NWS flood safety website at <https://www.weather.gov/safety/flood-map>.

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